

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS 111 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA MAINE 04333-0111

RANDALL A. LIBERTY COMMISSIONER

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PRESS RELEASE

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Maine Department of Corrections Provides Updates on COVID-19 Testing and Cases

Following the announcement of a case of COVID-19 in an employee at the Maine Correctional Center (MCC) in Windham last week, additional testing has confirmed COVID-19 in two more MCC employees, for a total of three.

As a result, the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) will open an outbreak investigation. The two cases announced today were among test samples sent to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) as part of facility testing which began on October 21. All three employees are currently in isolation.

Over the last week, MDOC has sent samples from more than 1,200 staff and inmates to HETL. Of these, as reported, five have returned positive: two of staff from Maine State Prison (MSP) and three of staff from MCC. Results are expected to roll in later this week on the remaining tests.

MSP and MCC will continue to monitor staff and residents for symptoms associated with COVID-19.

MDOC has updated <u>COVID-19 related protocols</u>, while continuing to ensure staff and residents at all facilities are taking precautions to reduce any potential spread of the virus.

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